



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913

PH (517) 373.7708 | FAX (517) 373.1450

[www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/gilbert/](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/gilbert/)

For Immediate Release

May 11, 2006

Contact: Jon Cool

517-373-7708

## **Senate sends legislation restricting funeral demonstrations to gov**

**LANSING** – A permit to demonstrate outside a funeral home, cemetery, mosque or synagogue where a funeral or memorial service is taking place would be allowed to be required under legislation heading to the governor's desk, said bill sponsor Sen. Jud Gilbert, R-Algonac.

"We are protecting the dignity and privacy of soldiers and their families while maintaining freedom of speech," Gilbert said. "I look forward to seeing the governor sign this legislation quickly so it is in place if needed."

Senate Bill 1199 would allow local units of government to require protestors to apply for and be issued a permit in order to demonstrate outside a funeral. A permit would not have to be issued if the service is on private property and one may be issued if the service is on public property.

Additionally, the local government may charge a fee for the application and issuance of a permit.

###